

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NICOSI 00242 191207Z

15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CU-02 EB-07 SIL-01 LAB-04 SR-02

ORM-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

OC-05 SCS-03 FBO-02 SCCT-01 AID-05 CCO-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NIC-01 NSC-05 SP-02 OPR-01 PA-01 USSS-00

RSC-01 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-15 SY-04 /103 W

----- 088039

O P 191120Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0935

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC (DI-5) PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK PRIORITY

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER PRIORITY

JCS WASHDC PRIORITY

COMSIXTHFLT PRIORITY

S E C R E T NICOSIA 0242

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CY, ASEC, PFOR, PINT

SUBJ: SECURITY SITUATION EMBASSY NICOSIA, JAN 19, 1975

1. GENERAL SITUATION IN NICOSIA IS CALM AS OF 1200 HOURS LOCAL
JANUARY 19.

2. NO AMERICANS WERE INJURED DURING JANUARY 18 DEMONSTRATION.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 NICOSI 00242 191207Z

3. EMBASSY IS PRESENTLY PROTECTED BY FORTY (40) ARMED CYPRUS NATIONAL GUARD, ONE CNG ARMORED CAR AND 10 UNARMED POLICE. WE CONSIDER THIS FORCE ADEQUATE FOR PRESENT CONDITIONS. IT WOULD NOT BE ADEQUATE TO DEFEND AGAINST KIND OF ATTACKS EXPERIENCED YESTERDAY.

4. LIAISON OFFICER OF UNFICYP ARMORED UNIT (CANADIAN) PRESENT IN EMBASSY. CANCON NOT PART OF SECURITY BUT PRESENT TO EVACUATE EMBASSY PERSONNEL IF REQUIRED.

5. OUR CONVERSATIONS LATE JANUARY 18 WITH GOC FOREIGN MINISTER, INTERIOR MINISTER AND CHIEF OF NATIONAL POLICE, PLUS ASSURANCES PASSED INDIRECTLY FROM PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE, POINT TO FIRM DECISION BY GOC TO MAKE SERIOUS ATTEMPT PROTECT EMBASSY.

6. POLICE NOW IN CHARGE OF EMBASSY SECURITY IS KNOWN TO EMBASSY AS POLITICALLY RELIABLE AND GENUINELY COMMITTED TO MAINTAIN ORDER. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT HIS FORCE WILL BE AUGMENTED AT FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE, THAT BARRICADES WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO PREVENT ACCESS TO EMBASSY AREA, AND THAT IF PENETRATION BY DEMONSTRATORS MADE POLICE WILL USE TEARGAS. NG WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO FIRE OVER HEADS OF CROWD IF NECESSARY. IF WARNING SHOTS ARE NOT HEEDDED NG WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO FIRE AT PERSONS. IN JANUARY 18 DEMONSTRATION POLICE USED NO TEAR GAS AND NG FIRED NO WARNING SHOTS, EVEN WHEN RIOTERS ENTERED AND PARTLY BURNED EMBASSY BUILDING.

7. ALTHOUGH ABOVE IS ENCOURAGING, WE CANNOT ASSUME AUTOMATICALLY THAT LOWER RANKS WILL FOLLOW ORDERS. HIGH PERCENTAGE OF POLICE AND NG PERSONNEL SHARE SENTIMENTS OF CROWD; MANY HAVE POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS WHICH ALIGN THEM WITH EFFORT TO CREATE ANTI-USG DISORDER RATHER THAN CONTROL IT. WE THEREFORE HAVE NO CERTAINTY THAT PROTECTION MEASURES WILL BE EFFECTIVE.

8. NICOSIA EXPECTS MAJOR DEMONSTRATIONS JANUARY 20 BY GOVERNMENT WORKERS, SHOP KEEPERS, STUDENTS AND TEACHERS. TRADE UNIONS HAVE CALLED FOR GENERAL WORK STOPPAGE ON ISLAND IN LATE MORNING. POTENTIAL NICOSIA CROWD 15,000 PERSONS.

9. WE HAVE RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT RANKING MEMBERS OF LYSSA-
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 NICOSI 00242 191207Z

RIDES GROUP (EDEK) WERE ACTIVE IN SECOND JANUARY 18 ATTACK. EDEK IS MOST ACTIVELY ANTI-AMERICAN POLITICAL GROUP IN CYPRUS. WHILE PARTY SMALL, IT IS HIGHLY ORGANIZED, ARMED AND EXPERIENCED IN EXPLOITING DEMONSTRATIONS. EDEK HAS CARRIED OUT CONSIDERABLE SPADEWORK IN REFUGEE CAMPS SINCE AUGUST. THEIR PRESENCE IN ANTI-USG DEMONSTRATIONS INCREASES LIKELIHOOD OF VIOLENCE.

10. MISSION EMPLOYEES (30) AND DEPENDENTS (8) REMAIN HOUSED

TEMPORARILY AT HILTON.

11. EMBASSY APPRECIATES ADVANCED STAGE OF EVACUATION PLANNING
BY SIXTH FLEET AND TAKES COMFORT IN PROXIMITY OF ITS UNITS.
WE FEEL REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT EVACUATION WILL NOT BE REQUIRED.
WE CANNOT, HOWEVER, RULE OUT THIS ALTERNATIVE.
BROWN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROTECTIVE SECURITY, POLITICAL SITUATION, CIVIL DISORDERS, EVACUATION PLANS, EMBASSIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NICOSI00242
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750020-0784
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750139/aaaabicn.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <24 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY SITUATION EMBASSY NICOSIA, JAN 19, 1975
TAGS: ASEC, PFOR, PINT, CY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006